Featherstone Academy's Newsletter - Week Ending 06/01/2023

I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas break and we wish you all a Happy New Year. Coming back from the Christmas break is always challenging for the children but they have settled in brilliantly. Moving forward, all communication, with the exception of urgent items, will come through this newsletter so I implore all parents to please make sure they read on a weekly basis and this in turn should decrease the volume of communication you receive and prevent any confusion. We have lots of exciting things planned for the children this term and we also have lots of exciting opportunities for parents to be more involved in school too.

Adam Gatrad

School Improvement Forum for Parents

Thank you to all who have responded, we look forward to welcoming you in to school. This will take place on Monday 13th February at 5pm. Childcare will be available for any children from Reception to Year 6 and younger children are welcome to join us with their parents. Further details will be sent out once finalised.

School Uniform

Children have come back to school looking very smart and ready to learn. Just a reminder of our school uniform:

School Uniform:

Grey/Black Trousers/skirts

White Polo/Shirt

Blue sweatshirt/cardigan

Black School Shoes

P.E.Kit

White T-shirt

Royal Blue Shorts

Grey/Black/Blue plain joggers

Black plimsolls

School Jumper on top

Please ensure all items are clearly labelled as we have a large amount of lost property that we are unable to locate the owner.

Children's University - Years 3, 4, 5 & 6

We are proud to be a part of the University of Wolverhampton Children's University and run the programme across Key Stage 2. Children's University is a charity that works in partnership with schools to develop a love of learning in children by encouraging and celebrating participation in extra-curricular activities in and outside of school. The impact of these activities is proven to be positive and research shows that joining a Children's University can make a real difference to children's confidence, social skills, attainment and attendance at school.

For those of you that are new to this, you are welcome to come along to the Children's University Launch Assembly on Thursday 19th January at 2:45pm to find out more about how your child can start collecting stamps towards achieving Children's University awards.

Featherstone Academy

P.E. Days Spring Term 1

MONDAY - YEAR 5 & YEAR 6

TUESDAY - YEAR 1 & YEAR 4

WEDNESDAY - YEAR 3 & NURSERY

FRIDAY - YEAR 2 & RECEPTION

Lunch Menus - January/February 2023

Miss Hayward has been cooking up some great school dinners. If you think you may be entitled to free school meals and have yet to apply, you can do so online FREE SCHOOL MEAL ONLINE APPLICATION

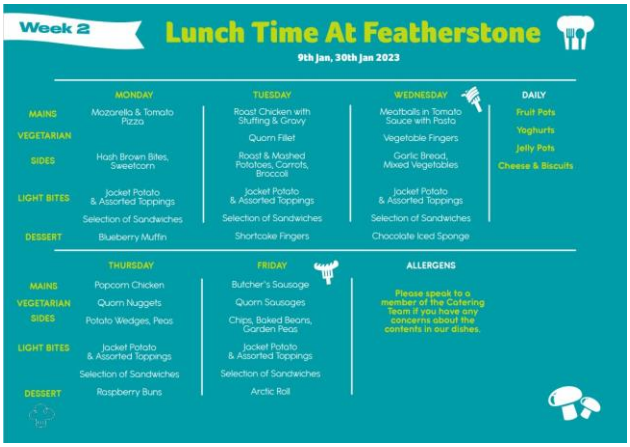
Week 1

Lunch Time At Featherstone

4th Jan, 23rd Jan, 3rd Feb 2023

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	DAILY
MAINS	Mozarella & Tomato Pizza	Beef Burger in a Bun	Sausages with Mini Yorkies & Gravy	Fruit Pots
VEGETARIAN		Quorn Burger in a Bun	Quorn Fillet	Yoghurts
SIDES	Diced Potato, Sweet Corn	Potato Wedges, Sweetcorn	Mashed Potatoes, Carrots	Jelly Pots
LIGHT BITES	Jacket Potato & Assorted Toppings	Jacket Potato & Assorted Toppings	Jacket Potato & Assorted Toppings	Cheese & Biscuits
	Selection of Sandwiches	Selection of Sandwiches	Selection of Sandwiches	
DESSERT	Chocolate Cupcake	Flapjack	Sugared Ring Doughnuts	

	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	ALLERGENS
MAINS	Tomato & Basil Pasta	Chicken Nuggets	Please speak to a member of the Catering Team if you have any concerns about the contents in our dishes.
VEGETARIAN	Plain Pasta Topped with Cheese	Quorn Nuggets	
SIDES	Garlic Bread, Peas	Chips, Baked Beans, Garden Peas	
LIGHT BITES	Jacket Potato & Assorted Toppings	Jacket Potato & Assorted Toppings	
	Selection of Sandwiches	Selection of Sandwiches	
DESSERT	Chocolate Krispie Cake	Ice Cream Cups	



Week 2

Lunch Time At Featherstone

9th Jan, 30th Jan 2023

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	DAILY
MAINS	Mozarella & Tomato Pizza	Roast Chicken with Stuffing & Gravy	Meatballs in Tomato Sauce with Pasta	Fruit Pots
VEGETARIAN		Quorn Fillet	Vegetable Fingers	Yoghurts
SIDES	Hash Brown Bites, Sweetcorn	Roast & Mashed Potatoes, Carrots, Broccoli	Garlic Bread, Mixed Vegetables	Jelly Pots
LIGHT BITES	Jacket Potato & Assorted Toppings	Jacket Potato & Assorted Toppings	Jacket Potato & Assorted Toppings	Cheese & Biscuits
	Selection of Sandwiches	Selection of Sandwiches	Selection of Sandwiches	
DESSERT	Blueberry Muffin	Shortcake Fingers	Chocolate Iced Sponge	

	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	ALLERGENS
MAINS	Popcorn Chicken	Butcher's Sausage	Please speak to a member of the Catering Team if you have any concerns about the contents in our dishes.
VEGETARIAN	Quorn Nuggets	Quorn Sausages	
SIDES	Potato Wedges, Peas	Chips, Baked Beans, Garden Peas	
LIGHT BITES	Jacket Potato & Assorted Toppings	Jacket Potato & Assorted Toppings	
	Selection of Sandwiches	Selection of Sandwiches	
DESSERT	Raspberry Buns	Arctic Roll	

Week 3

Lunch Time At Featherstone

16th Jan, 6th Feb 2023

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	DAILY
MAINS	Mozarella & Tomato Pizza	Chicken Goujons with Mayo Dip	Roast Beef with Mini Yorkies & Gravy	Fruit Pots
VEGETARIAN		Quorn Dippers	Quorn Fillet	Yoghurts
SIDES	Potato Wedges Sweetcorn	Potato Puffs, Peas,	Roast & Mashed Potatoes, Carrots, Broccoli	Jelly Pots
LIGHT BITES	Jacket Potato & Assorted Toppings	Jacket Potato & Assorted Toppings	Jacket Potato & Assorted Toppings	Cheese & Biscuits
	Selection of Sandwiches	Selection of Sandwiches	Selection of Sandwiches	
DESSERT	Chocolate Muffin	Chocolate Cookie	Sprinkle Sponge	

	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	ALLERGENS
MAINS	Sausage Roll	Fish Fingers	Please speak to a member of the Catering Team if you have any concerns about the contents in our dishes.
VEGETARIAN	Vegan Roll	Cheese & Potato Pie	
SIDES	Diced Potatoes, Mixed Vegetables	Chips, Baked Beans, Garden Peas	
LIGHT BITES	Jacket Potato & Assorted Toppings	Jacket Potato & Assorted Toppings	
	Selection of Sandwiches	Selection of Sandwiches	
DESSERT	Jam Doughnut	Cookies	

New to Nursery & Reception - September 2023

We welcome prospective parents to visit school for a tour with Mr Gatrad. Please email: headteacher@featherstone.uwmat.co.uk to arrange a convenient time. Please pass this on to families you may know with children due to start Nursery or Reception next September. We look forward to welcoming you.

KEY DATES:

Nursery applications for September 2023 is now open. NURSERY ONLINE APPLICATION LINK

Reception 2023 - click on the link to apply for a Reception place for September 2023. **Applications close Sunday 15th January 2023.** Parents will be notified on Monday 17th April 2023. Citizen Portal - Sign in (staffordshire.gov.uk)

Key Dates

Upcoming dates for your diary

9th January – Young Voices - letters sent to parents

18th January – **Reception & Year 1** Parent Phonics Workshop - 3.45pm

19th January - Children's University Assembly - Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 (parents welcome 2:45pm)

20th January – Chinese New Year Celebration – **EYFS**

24th January – **Little Learners & Nursery** Open Morning. 10.00 - 11.30am

25th January – **Year 5** trip to Tudor World

7th February – Safer Internet Day - **Whole School**

9th February – SEND coffee morning - 9am

10th February – Children's Mental Health Day - **Whole School**

13th February – Parents Forum 5pm- details to follow

2nd March – World Book Day - **Whole School**

6/7th March – Parents Evening **Reception to Year 6**. 3.30pm – 5.30pm

7th March – Parents Evening **Little Learners & Nursery** 3.30pm - 4.30pm

17th March – Comic Relief - **Whole School**

13th March – British Science Week - **Whole School**

20th – 24th March – Parents 'Look into Learning' Week (info to follow).

21st March – World Down Syndrome Day – 'Rock Your Socks' - **Whole School**

29th March – Easter Bonnet Parade – **Little Learners and Nursery** 9.30am

30th March – Easter Celebration led by Year 3 and 4 – 9.30am - (Year 3/4 parents welcome to attend)

Books & Biscuits

We are excited to be able to host our first 'Books & Biscuits' afternoons for all of our families. We would like to invite parents, carers, guardians or grandparents into school to enjoy some quality reading time with your child in our recently revamped library! Your child's teacher will be on hand to answer any questions you might have surrounding reading and supporting your child. There will also be some sweet treats on offer to make that reading time with your child even more special.

If you would like to join us, please arrive at the main office from 2.30pm on the day for your child's year group. Dates are as follows:

Thursday 12th January - **Reception**

Wednesday 18th January - **Little Learners and Nursery**

Thursday 19th January - **Year 1**

Wednesday 25th January - **Year 2**

Thursday 26th January - **Year 3**

Wednesday 1st February - **Year 4**

Thursday 2nd February - **Year 5**

Thursday 9th February - **Year 6**

We look forward to welcoming you into our library.

After School Clubs - January 2023

Communication confirming your child's requested clubs has now been sent out. There are still a few spaces available if your child wishes to attend. Please contact the school office.

After-school clubs will start week commencing 9th January 2023 until March 2023 and will be:

Monday - Basketball **Years 2 & 3** (Progressive Sports)

Tuesday - Football **Years 3 & 4** (Progressive Sports)

Wednesday - Multi-Skills **Years 5 & 6** (Progressive Sports)

Thursday - Rugby **Years 4, 5 & 6** (Mr Harper)

Attendance & Punctuality

Thank you to all our families for supporting our attendance policy. Our whole school target for this year is 95% and we are currently at 92.8%, so we would really appreciate everyone's effort in improving this. We understand that children do get ill and we really appreciate that you keep communicating with school when your child is absent for any reason.

Can we also emphasise the importance of being in school on time as there have been numerous incidents of some families routinely being late for morning registration. Children need to be in their class at 8:50am promptly. Children who arrive late are greatly disadvantaged because they miss starting the day with their peers and beginning of lessons. This means that they are often unsettled and confused about tasks and many will miss vital phonics lessons.

Guidelines

We would like to remind you about the guidelines we have to ensure everyone keeps safe on our school grounds:

Dogs are not allowed on the school site.

We ask you not to bring dogs onto the school premises at all as, whilst they may be family pets, some children are frightened of them, and dogs can also react to the large numbers of young children at the start and end of the school day. There is also a health and safety risk if dogs foul the play areas. You could arrange to meet your children outside one of the school gates or leave your dog at home.

Bicycles and scooters should be wheeled and not ridden on the school site.

We positively encourage children to walk or cycle to school and we have our own bike and scooter store on site. Please ensure that once on the school grounds that your child gets off their scooter or bike and walks it across the playground. This will keep everyone in the playground safe.

Parents are asked not to send children to school wearing jewellery.

This is on safety grounds as rings, necklaces, earrings etc. can be hazardous for both the wearer and others.

The exceptions to this rule are small (not dangling) ear-ring studs in pierced ears. Watches are also permitted. Earrings and watches must be removed during PE and games on health and safety grounds. Staff are not permitted to remove earrings. Plasters from home must be sent into school for PE lessons and sports events to cover earrings which cannot be removed for the first six weeks after piercing. School takes no responsibility for their safe keeping.

Drinks bottles

Can we please remind parents to ensure that when sending in a drinks bottle to school with children, it is clearly labelled with your child's name. Drinks that are for pupils to access during lesson times must contain water only as opposed to juice or squash. This allows for easier cleaning and less damage to the children's books if there is a spillage and also considering health benefits.

Office Information

Medication

If your child requires medication, it must be brought into the school office and an administration of medication form completed. At the end of the school day, please call in to the school office to collect the medication.

Asthma

If your child is Asthmatic, please can parents contact the office to ensure we have the correct up to date details on our records and to check expiry dates. Thank you.

MCAS Payments

We would ask if you could check for any outstanding payments on MCAS for school dinners, trips and snack. We are monitoring these payments weekly and will be contacting parents who fall behind to avoid any unnecessary debts building up. Please can we also ask that payments are made weekly and if anyone is experiencing any problems, please contact the school office who will be more than happy to help you.

Term Dates

Spring Term 2023

Inset day: Tuesday 3 January

Term starts: Wednesday 4 January

Holiday: Monday 20 February – Friday 24 February

Term ends: Friday 31 March

Holiday: Monday 3 April – Friday 14 April

Easter Sunday: Sunday 9 April

Summer Term 2023

Term starts: Monday 17 April

May Day: Monday 1 May

Holiday: Monday 29 May – Friday 2 June

Term ends: Friday 21 July

Inset Day: Monday 24 July

Inset Day: Tuesday 25 July

Holiday: Wednesday 26 July – Friday 1 September

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Social Media